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Pesticide Fact Sheet Number 102.1
Carbon Tetrachloride

(U.S.) Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC

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13. Type of Report & Period Covered

14.

15. Supplementary Notes

16. Abstract (Limit: 200 words)

This document contains up-to-date chemical information, including a summary of the Agency's regulatory position and rationale, on a specific pesticide or group of pesticides. A Fact Sheet is issued after one of the the following actions has occurred.

1. Issuance or reissuance of a registration standard,
2. Issuance of each special review document,
3. Registration of a significantly changed use pattern,
4. Registration of a new chemical, or
5. An immediate need for information to resolve controversial issues relating to a specific chemical or use pattern.

17. Document Analysis a. Descriptors

Pesticides, regulations, Chemical Information Fact Sheet, Use Patterns, science findings.

b. Identifiers/Open-Ended Terms

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EPA

Pesticide Fact Sheet

Name of Chemical: Carbon tetrachloride (and others)
Reason for Issuance: Special Review Action Document Issued
Date Issued: August, 1987
Fact Sheet Number: 102.1

1. DESCRIPTION OF CHEMICALS

Chemical names: Carbon tetrachloride - CCl_4
Carbon disulfide - CS_2
Ethylene dichloride - $C_2H_2Cl_2$
Chloroform - $CHCl_3$

Other names: Carbon disulfide - carbon bisulfide
Ethylene dichloride - EDC

Trade names: Carbon tetrachloride - Benzinoform, Carbona, Dowfume 75, ENT 4705, Flukoide, Halon 104

EPA Shaughnessy Code:

Carbon disulfide	016401
Ethylene dichloride	042003
Chloroform	020701
Carbon tetrachloride	016501
CCl_4 with EDC	016502
CCl_4 with EDB and EDC	016503

Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) number:
CS_2 - 75-15-0
EDC - 107-06-2
$CHCl_3$ - 67-66-3
CCl_4 - 56-23-5

Pesticide Type: Fumigant

Year of Initial Registration: 1956

Chemical family: Chlorinated hydrocarbons

2. USE PATTERNS AND FORMULATIONS

Application sites: Harvested grains throughout storage, transfer, milling, distribution, and processing phases.

Type of formulations: Gas

Types and methods of application: Fumigation

3. SUMMARY OF REGULATORY POSITION AND RATIONALE

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to revoke the exemption from the requirement of a tolerance and the food additive regulations for carbon tetrachloride, carbon disulfide, ethylene dichloride, and chloroform. The tolerance exemptions and food additive regulations are for the use of these chemicals as grain fumigants.

This action is being taken because all products containing CCl_4, CD, EDC, or chloroform as an active ingredient for use as a grain fumigant have been cancelled either voluntarily by the registrants or by administrative action.

The data presently available to the Agency indicate that carbon disulfide, ethylene dichloride, and chloroform are not persistent and there is no anticipation of significant residues resulting from the last legal application of these chemicals, on or before June 30, 1986. There is no need to establish action levels to replace the existing tolerance exemptions upon their revocation.

These limited data also indicate the presence of CCl_4 residues in or on raw grain, intermediate grain products, and ready-to-eat grain products. Although these data suggest that residues of carbon tetrachloride are decreasing with time, it would be difficult to utilize these data to establish tolerances or action levels to replace the current tolerance exemption for CCl_4 upon its revocation. It is doubtful that the presence of low levels of residues of this pesticide for this short-term period would pose a risk to the public health.

EPA has discussed the appropriateness of action levels with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). They agree that action levels should not be established and that FDA will not take enforcement action if residues are detected in grain or grain-based consumer products after the exemptions are removed if it appears such residues resulted from the legal use of the fumigants on or before June 30, 1986. FDA has notifified the Agency in writing of this position.

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